

NEW SAILOR ASSIMILATION COURSE (NSAC)

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Purpose: Prevent attrition of new, first term sailors entering shipboard life through providing a forum to share their transitional experiences.

Goal: Reach and retain every new, first term sailor who reports for duty aboard SHREVEPORT.

Format: NSAC is a program that takes place once per month at a pre-determined location aboard ship. (SHREVEPORT utilizes the Chief's Mess and the Wardroom.) Each new sailor is assigned to a class within the first week of reporting for duty. The classes are distinguished using the phonetic alphabet, i.e., "ALPHA", "BRAVO", "CHARLIE", etc. The Command Facilitators are the Chaplain and a Senior Enlisted Member of the crew (E-6 and above, preferably "khaki".) There are follow-up sessions for each class at the 3, 6, and 12-month point of their duty aboard ship.

PARTS I & II are 1½ hours each in length and are conducted during the first two months of duty aboard ship.

PART ONE

- Introduction: Chaplain, Chain of Command representative introduce themselves to the sailors. Then the sailors follow suit providing name, hometown and purpose for joining the Navy. (Approximately 20-25 minutes.)
- Power Point Presentation: The sailors are then led through an interactive power point presentation called "Responsible Decision Making." (Approximately 30-40 minutes.)
- 10 MINUTE BREAK
- Quality of Life segment: Sailors are encouraged to share their experiences, good, bad and otherwise, about life in the Navy and aboard SHREVEPORT. Each comment/concern is recorded and addressed at that time or during the next session. (Approximately 10 minutes.)
- Support Services: Chaplain, Chain of Command, MWR, Legal, NMCRS, and TRICARE representatives make individual presentations (Approximately 5 minutes each.) They reinforce the fact that they are here to support them and provide information that will enhance their shipboard

quality of life. The Chaplain personally offers follow-up counseling opportunity to the participants.

PART TWO

- Quality of Life segment: Sailors are encouraged to share their transitional experiences about their first month aboard ship. (Approximately 30 minutes.)
- 10 MINUTE BREAK
- Power Point Presentation: "Support Planning: Making the Navy Work for You."
Each sailor is strongly encouraged to construct a support plan for the following areas of their life: spiritual, financial, professional and education. The Chaplain, Command Financial Specialist and the Command Career Counselor respectively conduct these briefs with the sailors. (Approximately 40 minutes.)

Each follow up session at the 3, 6, and 12-month point should be approximately 30 minutes long and done in the "Quality of Life" format.

A strict muster should be kept on each new sailor will to ensure course completion and follow up.

NSAC POWER POINT SYLLABUS

NSAC PART I: "Responsible Decision Making"

Facilitators: Chaplain

Materials: Power Point Projector, Laptop computer, projection screen, chalkboard or flip chart, markers.

SLIDE 1 - Title page and subtitle. Chaplain solicits response from the group concerning the term, "The Social Contract".

SLIDE 2 - THE SOCIAL CONTRACT. Read the "Definition" and numbers 1-3. Expound and give examples where necessary. (Note: Interactive presentation, solicit comments.)

SLIDE 3 - RESPONSIBILITY. This is a Webster's dictionary definition that gives the chaplain wide latitude to expound or solicit comments from the group.

SLIDE 4 - COMPONENTS OF THE CONTRACT. Give a practical definition of the word "component" and follow with an illustration. Example: A component is a part or parts of a whole. Components of a car engine are pistons, push rods, cylinders, spark plugs, etc. Just like a car engine, the Social Contract has components too. Have someone read 1-3.

SLIDE 5 - COMPONENTS OF THE CONTRACT. The primary components of the contract that these sailors are executing are the "YOU" and "NAVY". Which is to say, individual sailors along with their specific service obligation, whether 3,4,5 years of service, comprise the components of their Navy contract. (Read "YOU" and "NAVY".)

SLIDE 6 - DYNAMICS. Title page. Solicit a practical definition of the term "Dynamics". Dynamics are how something works or behaves. Using the car engine example, the dynamics of internal combustion are horsepower, torque, fuel injection, oil lubrication, airflow, etc.

SLIDE 7 - DYNAMICS. The dynamics behind the contract that they have with the Navy are defined and explained.

- 1. The Constant and the Variable - Have a sailor read the statement that follows.
- INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION - Have a chalk board or a flip chart, markers and begin to solicit comments from the sailors to what they believe, as the "Constant", are their needs, wants, and desires are. Record their responses on left half of chalkboard/flip chart. (Note: Their responses will range from extra pay to cars and women. Keep things clean but don't moralize. You want them to express themselves at this point.) Then, on the left side of the board/chart, do the same for the Navy, which represents the "Variable" the only difference being that expectations and terms are listed.
- After this is completed, have them compare the two lists for similarities. They should note that the two lists have very little in common. If/when someone picks up on this then point out to the group that the challenge of life in the Navy is getting the "Constants" list to conform to the list of expectations under "Variable".
- 2. Compliance - Explain practical definition in relation to presentation.

- 3. Constraints - Explain practical definition in relation to presentation. Stress and elaborate "unknowns" part. Many sailors have experienced changes in orders, misinformation from recruiters, forfeiture of "A" School, etc. and they need to know that constraints still apply even if things haven't gone their way.
- 4. Consequences. Explain practical definition. Stress or solicit from the group specific "repercussions."

SLIDE 8 CHARACTER. Have sailor read Webster's dictionary definition. Link the "INTEGRITY" to the definition and as it relates to the presentation.

SLIDE 9 SOURCES (OF CHARACTER). Listed are four basic areas by which sailors may build their character while serving in the Navy. Chaplains should "get on their soapbox" in regard to expounding upon "PERSONAL FAITH IN GOD" bullet. Discuss how each bullet shapes the character of the person.

SLIDE 10 DEVELOPMENT. Read and expound upon numbers 1-2. For the "Life Happens!" quote you may reference the "Forrest Gump" bumper sticker—but don't use it! It's far too profane. Reinforce the importance of the total presentation by reading the "NOTE".

SLIDE 11 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

NSAC POWER POINT SYLLABUS

NSAC PART II: SUPPORT PLANNING: "MAKING THE NAVY WORK FOR YOU"

Facilitators: Chaplain, Command Financial Specialist, and Command Career Counselor.

Materials: Power point projector, projection screen Laptop computer, writing paper and pens.

SLIDE 1 Title page.

SLIDE 2 GUIDING PRINCIPLES. Read and expound on each bullet.

SLIDE 3 KEYS TO SUPPORT PLANNING.

- 1. A practical perspective and a rhetorical challenge: gets them thinking about "where they are".

SLIDE 4 KEYS TO SUPPORT PLANNING.

- 2. Again, get them thinking about the "negatives" that stand to sabotage their naval career.

SLIDE 5 KEYS TO SUPPORT PLANNING.

- 3. Expound on practical statement.

SLIDE 6 AREAS OF FOCUS. Explain to the sailors that these are the four areas that will be covered by this presentation.

SLIDE 7 SPIRITUAL SUPPORT PLAN. The chaplain has a wide berth in which to elaborate and stress the importance of having a strong faith relationship with God. It's the key to any successful life plan!

The last two bullets, "Faith Group" and "CMT" should be linked. Knowing sailors faith group requirements are key to the CMT being able to provide religious support.

SLIDE 8 FINANCIAL SUPPORT PLAN. The Command Financial Specialist is introduced and takes over the presentation. They may take the liberty to add any new pertinent information that they have received from DFAS, DOD, etc. Questions may be solicited.

SLIDE 9 PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT PLAN. The Command Career Counselor is introduced and takes over the presentation. Questions may be solicited.

SLIDE 10 EDUCATION SUPPORT PLAN. The Command Career Counselor completes this part of the presentation and solicits questions.

SLIDE 11 REVIEW. Title page.

SLIDE 12 REVIEW. Reinforce and expound upon these bullets.

SLIDE 13 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS. Solicit and then reinforce your support for them as their Chaplain.

